CALPEEK

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CALPEEK GOES TO WAR: GAUGING POLITICAL IMPACT OF MID-EAST WAR BETWEEN U.S. AND IRAQ. Editor's note: A major war in the Middle East between the U.S. and its "coalition allies" and Saddam Hussein's Iraqi forces started just as CALPEEK went off deadline this week. Here's our analysis on how war will impact upon CALIF. POLITICS...

...Although life goes on, especially political life, war and talk of war dominates the conversation of most Californians. In the State, there are 4 critically important SPECIAL ELECTIONS underway, but few voters are focused on these races. For pollsters, the job of measuring public opinion on anything but the WAR is all but impossible. Even CA's new Gov. Pete Wilson got into the act by saying Iraq's military, and leader Saddam Hussein, must be totally mashed...

...Turning to THE DEBATE. For those CALPEEK readers who watched the House/Senate debate on whether to give Pres. George Bush the authority to use force, there can be NO DOUBT that regardless of which side one favored, the debate itself was moving. It was the U.S. Congress at its best and it MAY, at least temporarily, slow the drive for TERM LIMITS now aimed at Congress...

...In terms of voting FOR the resolution to give Pres. Bush the authority to use force, there were some SURPRISES which showed up in the Calif. congressional delegation...

...The 6 Jewish members in the delegation were split, with Reps. Barbara Boxer, Tony Beilenson and Henry Waxman all opposed to the Michel/Solarz Joint Resolution, and Howard Berman, Mel Levine and Tom Lantos in favor. Support FOR the resolution was NOT considered a litmus test in terms of backing for Israel, but there was much pressure coming from CA's politically active Jewish community to support Pres. Bush. Sources say the pressure on Waxman was intense, but he held firm, and thus broke with his close ally, Howard Berman, for the first time on a key issue...

...As for the GOP side, there were only 3 U.S. House members who voted against the authorizing resolution and one of them was freshman Republican Frank Riggs of Northern Calif. Who? Riggs is the guy who pulled one of the bigger upsets last November by defeating incumbent Demo Doug Bosco - with help from the Peace & Freedom Party's candidate, Darlene Comingore, who got 15%. So Riggs' vote was smart, given the politics of his 1st C.D...

...PEACE POLITICS. The anti-war movement in Calif. is very much alive and well. For Levine, who was strongly opposed to U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War, he now knows what it is like to have his office invaded by an anti-war sit-in. Because of his backing of the Michel/Solarz Jt. Resolution, it could cause problems if he seeks reelection or if he runs for the U.S. Senate. As for Calif.'s most famous anti-war activist, Democratic Assemblyman Tom Hayden, he has been very low keyed. On the other hand, Ron Kovic has been very visible and loud. And yes, he lives in Levine's district...

...U.S. SENATE POLITICS. Alan Cranston(D) didn't vote (he's still undergoing cancer treatment here in Calif.), while Calif.'s new U.S. Sen. John Seymour(R) did as expected and voted FOR the resoultion...

...With both of Calif.'s U.S. Senate seats up in 1992, it's likely these key votes will become major areas of difference between the candidates. For now, it's hard to say which senate candidates have the edge, because that depends what happens next in

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Kuwait. But CALPEEK sources agree a quick and decisive win by the U.S.-led coalition (with relatively light U.S. casualties) would tend to HELP those who sided with Pres. Bush, while a long and bloody war may have the opposite impact...

...NO BLOOD FOR OIL. CALPEEK sources predict that after the war there will be a big push in congress to once again establish a MEANINGFUL energy policy to make the U.S. energy independent. This could mean confrontation between CA's environmental movement and those who favor offshore drilling. Stay tuned...

FORGET THE 11th COMMANDMENT IN 35th S.D.

"Thou shall not speak evil of another Republican," was the GOP's 11th Commandment. At least that's what former Pres. Ronald Reagan used to say. Anyway, you can forget the 11th Commandment in the 35th S.D. special election down in Orange County, which will see a primary Mar. 19. The 35th S.D. is the State senate seat once held by John Seymour(R) of Anaheim, CA's new U.S. Senator. It's GOP turf, so Demos need not apply...

...The key players jockeying for position are GOP Assemblymembers Doris Allen of Cypress, who has hired consultant Ray McNally and Dick Swayne, both of Sacto; Nolan Frizzelle of Huntington Beach, who has hired Russo-Marsh & Associates of Sacto as his campaign consultant; and John Lewis of Orange, who has retained Huckaby-Rodriguez of Sacto has his consulting team. Another major player is attorney Dana Reed, current chairman of the Orange Co. Transportation Commission, who has hired consultant Harvey Englander of Orange Co...

...Why is the race likely to get nasty? The answer is John Lewis - not that he is going to start things, but he will likely be the OBJECT of some very heavy hits, all dealing with his role in the 1986 Phony White House Letters Case. Lewis was indicted for reportedly ordering the forging of ex Pres. Ronald Reagan's signature on some campaign mailers, but the case was dismissed before it came to trial. The court said Lewis may have ordered the printing of phony White House letters, but the forgery didn't defraud voters out of money or property - thus there was NO CRIME. Just in case voters have forgotten this incident, at least one of the candidates will undoubtedly remind them numerous times...

...FYI: Conservative Bay Buchanan who ran for State Treasurer last year, is catching heat from her conservative buddies around the State for endorsing Dana Reed. Reed, it so happens, is the only one of the four major GOP contenders who is PRO-CHOICE. Bay is holding firm. Stay tuned...

BIG MO FOR REPUBLICAN LESLIE IN 1st S.D.

In the 1st S.D. special election, which like the 35th S.D. special will be held on Mar. 19, Republican Assemblyman Tim Leslie of Sacto may be the heavy favorite among the "GOP Establishment," but that isn't forcing El Dorado Co. Sup. Bob Dorr (R) out of the race. As CALPEEK went to press last week, there were two strong GOP county supes in this contest with Leslie. But Placer Co. Sup. Mike Fluty, who was a favorite of the hardline conservatives, pulled the plug on his campaign Jan. 10...

...With Fluty out, and Richard Gann having second thoughts, the GOP field is clear except for Dorr, who was an Air Force fighter pilot during the Vietnam War, with 237 combat missions under his belt. Leslie's endorsement list reads like the who's who of Calif. GOP politics - everyone from Gov. Pete Wilson to new U.S. Rep. John Doolittle (R-Roseville), who use to represent this district. Even the El Dorado Co. GOP Central Committee has endorsed Leslie...

...Dorr's strategy is to play against those who have endorsed Leslie and to portray himself as the PRO Prop. 140 outsider who is fighting what one CALPEEK source called a CLOSED SYSTEM. Not a bad plan and Dorr has a warchest of between $70,000-80,000...

...The Leslie strategy of clearing the other GOP candidates has both advantages and problems. The big advantage is that GOP resources (money) are concentrated on one candidate. The problem is that in the past, when field clearing deals have been made, the beneficiary has sometimes lost to the Demo. Cases in point, the 33rd S.D. special of 1987 (Green vs. Grisham) and last year's special in the 15th C.D. (Condit vs. Berryhill)...

...On the Demo side, it still looks like

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the person to beat is Siskiyou Co. Sup. Patricia Mattingly, but don't discount former Lassen Co. Sup. John Gaither, who is conservative and said to be a favorite of the PRO-GUN lobby. That could be important. Stay tuned...

L.A. COUNTY SUPES RACE STILL UP IN THE AIR. Any two of the four major contenders could end up in a runoff to become L.A. County's first Hispanic supervisor. The special is set for Jan. 22 in the new 1st district between State Senators Art Torres and Charles Calderon, L.A. Councilwoman Gloria Molina and Sup. Pete Schabarum's former top deputy Sarah Flores. Torres, Calderon and Molina are Demos and Flores is a Republican...

...CALPEEK sources are still divided as to which of these four contenders will make the runoff and the prospects of a Mid-East war throws even more doubt and confusion into the situation because it is next to impossible to get the voters' attention. And while print news media coverage has been fairly good, TV coverage has been lacking...

...Because of the uncertain situation, some CALPEEK sources think the major candidates who already have thousands of votes via the ABSENTEE BALLOT will emerge as the two who make the runoff. Torres, Molina and Flores all had AB programs. Stay tuned...

DEMO PLAN FOR FUNDING REGISTRATION GAINING. A resolution to revamp the way the Calif. Demo Party funds its GOTV and voter registration programs is said to be gaining big MO among the 75 Assembly District Demo Caucus groups, many of whom met over the Jan. 12 weekend. The plan, developed by Demo activist and fundraiser Phil Angelides of Sacto, calls for the CDP to impound 65% of the money it takes in monthly from its telemarketing operation and placing it in an account earmarked for 1991-92 GOTV & voter registration programs. Sources say that 36 of the 75 A.D. Demo Caucuses adopted this resolution, which will be introduced at the CDP's annual convention in Oakland in early March. About 16 of the caucuses approved the resolution in concept, while 25 didn't take a position...

...The CDP meeting could be one of the more interesting political party gatherings in a long time, especially if CDP Chair Jerry Brown steps down to run for the U.S. Senate in 1992. In that case, look for a battle to develop between Angelides and Steve Westly, a former CDP No. Calif. vice chair who attempted to compete with Brown two years ago. If Brown steps aside, the new chair must be from No. Calif. Stay tuned...

WILSON NAMES FONG TO BD. OF EQUAL. POST. As expected, Gov. Pete Wilson has named Matthew Fong to the State Bd. of Equalization post of Paul Carpenter, who was convicted in the FBI/Capitol corruption case. Convicted felons can't hold public office. Fong, 36, was the unsuccessful GOP candidate for State Controller (against Gray Davis). Fong is a recent convert to the Calif. Republican Party, and yes, his mom is Demo SOS March Fong Eu. Carpenter's BOE seat now has a Demo registration edge, but with reapportionment in the wings, it is possible a deal could be made to help Fong. How will Fong go over with the conservative wing of the CA GOP? They still don't trust him completely and he is PRO-CHOICE. Stay tuned...

S.F. CO. SUPES CHAIR DORIS WARD AT BAPAC. S.F. Co. Bd. of Supes chairperson Doris Ward is the kick-off speaker for the 1991 series of meetings sponsored by BAPAC, the Bay Area Public Affairs Council. 11:30 a.m. reception, 12 noon lunch, Jan. 24, St. Francis Hotel, S.F. For info, contact Alexis Laguillo at (415)442-2151. Anna-Marie Booth of AT&T is BAPAC president...

WILLIE BROWN MARKS 10th YEAR AS CA SPEAKER. Although Demo Assembly Speaker Willie Brown knew something was up on Jan. 14, he wasn't sure. But when he saw the 50-70 guests assembled at Sacto home of Bobbie Metzger and Michael Galizio (husband & wife), he knew it was to celebrate the 10th anniversary of his coming to power as Assembly Speaker. Who was there? According to L.A. sources, the who's who of Calif. politics who helped put the deal together to make Brown the CA Assembly Speaker. There were even some GOP types on hand, such as Ed Rollins, who flew in from D.C., and GOP Assembly Leader Ross Johnson. Stay tuned...

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RECALL FILED TO OUST WEST HOLLYWOOD MAYOR. Veteran councilman and current Mayor John Heilman may be facing a recall election if backers can round up 4,200 valid signatures in the City of West Hollywood in the next 120 days. As with any recall petition, the names of those who sign the recall papers are kept confidential by the city clerk. Heilman, who was just reelected last April, says he doesn't think there is much support for a recall, but recall supporters claim there is growing anger with Mayor Heilman. FYI: WH City Councilman Paul Koretz has filed papers to run for an open seat on the L.A. Community College Bd. of Trustees. He has tons of endorsements...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTES. Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook:

- Cheryl Brown is the new communications and development mgr. for the Council of State Govts.(Western Legisl. Conf.), based in S.F...

- Donna Lucas, ace PR/press secretary type who ran Tom Hayes' campaign for Tres., will open a Sacramento office for the PA/campaign mgt. firm of Nelson/Ralston/Robb. And Paul Freeman has joined the Costa Mesa office of N/R/R as a VP of PA...

- Paul Hancock, treasurer of the Calif. Republican Party, has moved his accountancy firm. New address is 19400 Steven's Creek Blvd., #202, Cupertino, CA 95014...

- Grace Bos, sister of the Gov. Wilson's Communications & PA director, Otto Bos, joins the Sacto office of Stoorza, Zieghaus & Metzger...

- Political law firm of Reed & Davidson has moved its L.A. office to 550 S. Flower Street, 7th Floor, L.A. 90071. The new phone number is (213)624-6200...

- Burlingame-based Woodward & McDowell have opened an L.A. office at 11444 West Olympic Blvd., #1018, L.A. 90064. Phone is (213)445-8885. Staffers include Richard Fischer, Rochelle Lewis, Ted Green and Scott Macdonald...

- Robin Kramer, the savvy COS to L.A. Councilman Richard Alatorre, has left govt. service to join L.A. based Marathon Communications in West L.A...

- In case you missed it, Walter Zelman, a former director of CA Common Cause, is L.A. City's new ethics headhunter, a post created by passage of Prop. H...

- Dotson Wilson, deputy COS to Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, takes on the added job of deputy dir. of Majority Services, replacing Dan Eaton, who is COS for Assemblyman Richard Katz in Sacto...

3 NEW CAMPAIGN LAWS FACING CA CANDIDATES. There are 3 new laws on the books that will impact Calif. candidates and consultants beginning this year. Here's a brief rundown on the new laws...

- AB 2220 (Elihu Harris) calls for civil penalties for elected officials, staffers and consultants who MISUSE State resources for personal purposes or in an election. In other words, don't use State paid-staff or telephones for campaign purposes...

- AB 3148 (Stan Statham) requires petition circulators to disclose their names and the names of ballot measure sponsors to voters who may sign such petitions...

- SB 284 (Milton Marks) requires that the pro and con sides of a proposed ballot measure MUST DISCLOSE the names of the financial backers while the petitions are being circulated...

MARKETPLACE NETWORK

- CERRELL ASSOCIATES IS EXPANDING its campaign unit. We're looking for an experienced political professional who knows campaign "nuts and bolts," as well as strategy. Minimum 3 years experience in local and State campaigns required. Contact: Hal Dash (213)466-3445...

CALPEEK's Marketplace Network is a listing of employer/employee availabilities for those engaged in campaign consulting/PA/PR/govt. relations/lobbying. The cost for each listing is $25 for up to 40 words. Add $5 for each additional 10 words. Send ad copy with advanced payment to CALPEEK's Marketplace, P.O. Box 1468, Beverly Hills, CA 90213. For info (213)659-0205...

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